

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELFAS 00170 121344Z

45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /079 W  
----- 100792

R 121216Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

SECSTATE WASHDC 929

UNCLAS BELFAST 170

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: LOYALIST IRE OVER REPORTED WHITELAW ATTITUDE  
TO ONE-PARTY RULE

REF: BELFAST 161

1. PROTESTANT DAILY NEWS LETTER MAY 10 CITING  
UNATTRIBUTED REPORTS FROM LONDON TO EFFECT LEADING  
CONSERVATIVES, INCLUDING WILLIAM WHITELAW, WOULD OPPOSE ANY  
RETURN TO ONE-PARTY RULE IN ULSTER REPORTED SHARP REACTION FROM  
UNIONIST POLITICIANS. MR. WHITELAW ALLEGEDLY TOLD MRS. THATCHER  
THAT HE AND MANY COLLEAGUES WOULD NOT RPT NOT SUPPORT ANY  
ATTEMPT TO RE-ESTABLISH UNIONIST ONE-PARTY CONTROL AT STORMONT.  
NEWS LETTER SPECULATED THAT MR. WHITELAW ACTION SPARKED OFF BY  
STATEMENT MAY 5 BY AIREY NEAVE (REFTEL) IN WHICH HE STATED  
SHADOW CABINET WOULD RE-EXAMINE ULSTER POLICY IN LIGHT OF  
CONVENTION ELECTION RESULTS.

2. OFFICIAL UNIONIST LEADER HARRY WEST MOST VOCAL IN  
REACTION. HE REPORTEDLY SAID IT RATHER QUEER THAT  
MR. WHITELAW SHOULD APPROVE OF ONE-PARTY RULE AT WESTMINSTER  
AND NOT AT STORMONT. HE ADDED MR. WHITELAW HAD SEEN HIS  
PET SOLUTION TO ULSTER PROBLEM PROVE UNWORKABLE AND THAT  
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WHITELAW NOT RPT NOT BIG ENOUGH MAN TO TAKE A BEATING. OTHER

UNIONIST POLITICIANS INCLUDING JOHN LAIRD AND REV. MARTIN SMYTH ALSO CRITICAL. NEWS LETTER SPECULATED THAT CONCENSUS LOYALIST OPINION IS THAT LESS OUTSIDERS (INCLUDING WESTMINSTER POLITICIANS) INTRUDE ON CONVENTION SCENE THE BETTER FOR ALL CONCERNED.

3. SOME UNIONIST POLITICIANS HAVE BEEN HOPEFUL THAT TRADITIONAL TIES BETWEEN ULSTER UNIONISTS AND CONSERVATIVE PARTY CAN BE REVIVED. THEIR REACTION POSSIBLY CONDITIONED BY DISAPPOINTMENT ABOUT IMPLICATIONS OF REPORTED WHITELAW STANCE.

SPICER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 MAY 1975  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BELFAS00170  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750165-0626  
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**To:** LONDON  
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